

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An endoscopic suture apparatus comprising:
an endoscope;

5 a puncture member which has at least one sharp
tip;

a holding member which holds the puncture member
and which is removably attached to an distal end of the
endoscope;

10 a clamping member which is configured to move back
and forth with respect to the endoscope and to clamp
living tissues; and

a drive member which is configured to move the
puncture member,

15 wherein the holding member has an opening portion
which opens to an distal end; the opening portion, the
distal end of the endoscope and the holding member
define a treatment space; the clamping member is
configured to project and retreat from and into the
opening portion through the treatment space; and the
20 puncture member is configured to move in the treatment
space, in a direction that intersects with a
longitudinal direction of the endoscope.

2. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to
claim 1, which further comprises a receiving member
25 configured to engage with the puncture member, and in
which the puncture member is configured to move from a
first position to a second position and pass through

the treatment space, the first and second positions being outside and inside the treatment space, respectively, and the receiving member engages with the puncture member when the puncture member moves to the second position.

3. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the holding member is deformable to change a size of the treatment space.

4. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the holding member has a first member and a second member which define the treatment space, and the first and second member are moved relative to each other to change a size of the treatment space.

5. An endoscopic suture apparatus comprising:
an endoscope;

a clamping member which is configured to move in a longitudinal direction of the endoscope and to clamp living tissues;

a puncture member which is to penetrate a living tissue clamped by the clamping member; and

a drive member which is configured to move the puncture member in a direction that intersects with a direction in which the clamping member is moved, to cause the puncture member to penetrate the living tissue.

6. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the puncture member and the drive

member are provided on the a first holding member which projects from and located at a distal end of the endoscope.

5 7. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the drive member is provided on the a first holding member which projects from a distal end of the endoscope, and has a second holding member which opposes the first holding member across the clamping member.

10 8. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first holding member has a guide portion which guides the drive member in the same direction as the clamping member is moved, and a bent guide portion which guides the drive member in a
15 direction intersecting with a direction in which the clamping member is moved.

 9. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the second holding member has a receiving member which engages with the puncture member
20 penetrating the living tissue.

 10. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the second holding member is configured to rotate away from the clamping member.

25 11. The endoscopic suture apparatus according to any one of claims 5 to 8, wherein the drive member is a hollow needle, and the puncture member is arranged in the hollow needle.